

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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DRAFTED BY ARA/APU:JMSMITH:PR

APPROVED BY ARA:WDROGERS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 084140

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EFIN,UY

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH PEREZ CALDAS

1. AMBASSADOR PEREZ CALDAS CALLED ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS APRIL 11 TO SAY HE WAS DEPARTING THAT AFTERNOON FOR MONTEVIDEO TO ATTEND WEEK-LONG CONFERENCE OF SELECTED URUGUAYAN AMBASSADORS CALLED BY FOREIGN MINISTER BLANCO. HE OFFERED TO CARRY ANY MESSAGE MR. ROGERS WOULD LIKE HIM TO CONVEY TO BLANCO.

2. MR. ROGERS ASKED THE AMBASSADOR TO CONVEY HIS VERY BEST WISHES TO FOREIGN MINISTER BLANCO. HIS OWN MEETING WITH BLANCO IN MONTEVIDEO RECENTLY HAD BEEN VERY USEFUL TO HIM AND TO THE SECRETARY, AS URUGUAY'S VIEWS ON INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS ARE VERY IMPORTANT TO US. HE SAID IT WAS REGRETABLE THAT THE PRESSURE OF TIME WOULD NOT PERMIT THE SECRETARY TO VISIT URUGUAY DURING HIS LATIN AMERICAN TRIP, BUT HE SUGGESTED THAT FOLLOWING THE SECRETARY'S TRIP IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO US TO HAVE A LETTER FROM BLANCO GIVING HIS VIEWS ON THE FUTURE OF THE DIALOGUE.

3. PEREZ CALDAS SAID THE CUBAN ISSUE WAS VERY IMPORTANT
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TO THE FUTURE OF THE DIALOGUE. THE CUBANS HAVE NOT YET

GIVEN UP THEIR SUBVERSIVE EFFORTS IN URUGUAY. MR. ROGERS REPLIED THAT WE REGARD URUGUAY AS A TOUCHSTONE OF CUBA'S ATTITUDE WITH RESPECT TO INTERVENTION IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER NATIONS.

4. THE AMBASSADOR EXPRESSED HIS PERSONAL APPRECIATION FOR THE SUPPORT GIVEN BY MR. ROGERS AND THE DEPARTMENT TO URUGUAY'S REQUEST FOR AN EXTENSION OF THE IDB LOAN FOR FRIGORIFICOS. HE NOTED THAT THIS MATTER HAD NOT BEEN FORMALLY DECIDED YET AND HOPED HE COULD CONTINUE TO COUNT ON THE DEPARTMENT'S SUPPORT. MR. ROGERS SAID WE CONSIDER THIS LOAN A GOOD ONE WHICH JUSTIFIES AN EXCEPTION TO OUR NORMAL POLICY ON EXTENSIONS.

5. PEREZ CALDAS SAID HIS GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN CONCERNED BY REPORTS IN THE URUGUAYAN PRESS THAT EX-SENATOR MACHELINI, WHO HAD BEEN LIVING IN ARGENTINA, HAD COME TO THE U.S. AT THE INVITATION OF SENATOR KENNEDY. HE SAID HE HAD BEEN INFORMED BY THE URUGUAYAN DESK THAT SENATOR KENNEDY'S OFFICE HAD DENIED ANY INVITATION TO MICHELINI OR OTHER CONTACT WITH HIM. HE EXPRESSED HIS PERSONAL VIEW THAT MICHELINI HAD GONE TO CUBA RATHER THAN THE U.S. KISSINGER

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